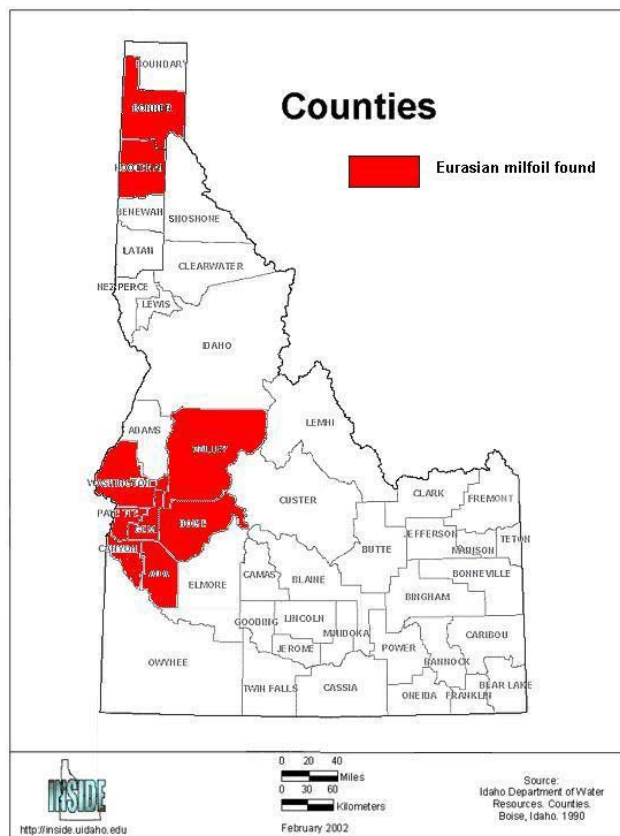




# MILFOIL TASK FORCE END OF YEAR REPORT

## 2003 SEASON



# **MILFOIL TASK FORCE END OF YEAR REPORT**

## **2003 SEASON**

### **PURPOSE OF THE MILFOIL TASK FORCE**

1. Identify the scope of the Eurasian watermilfoil infestation in Idaho.
2. Assist and support the Idaho Weed Awareness Campaign with education efforts.
3. Provide input to the Invasive Species Council regarding aquatic nuisance species in general.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE MILFOIL TASK FORCE**

1. Collect waterway data
2. Classify water bodies
3. Prioritize susceptibility
4. Collect funds to perform the survey
5. Survey physically
6. Make recommendations to the Invasive Species Council and recommend strategies for control

### **MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE**

Sandy Daniel, Chair  
Nina Eckberg, Kootenai Co Weed Control  
Tim Elsea, Bonner County Public Works  
Doug Freeland, ACE Diving  
John Johann, Valley County Weed Super  
Tom Kerr, Valley County Commissioner  
Dave Kluttz, Chemical Landscape Management  
Tim Prather, U of I  
Jay Sila, Idaho Department of Lands  
Brian Wilbur, Ada County Weed Control  
Brenda Waters, ISDA

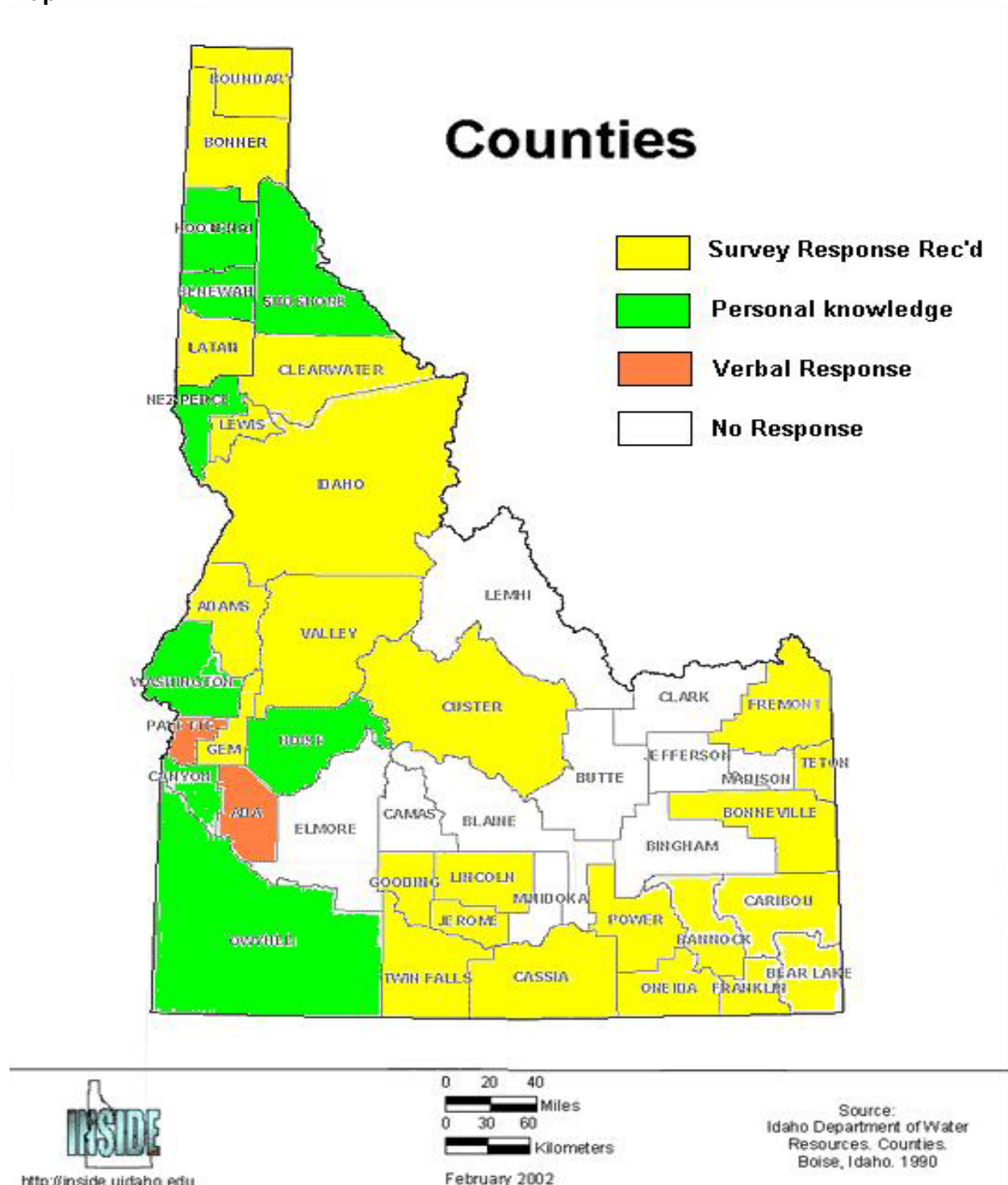
### **SUMMARY OF THE 2003 PROJECT**

The primary objective for 2003 was to complete an initial assessment of the scope of infestation in Idaho and determination of risk for other waterways not yet infested. Data collection began Spring 2003, by mail-out survey. Twenty-six counties responded with written data. The Task Force members added to this list with direct knowledge of 8 more counties, allowing for prioritization of waterways could begin for the 2003 season. (See Map 1.)

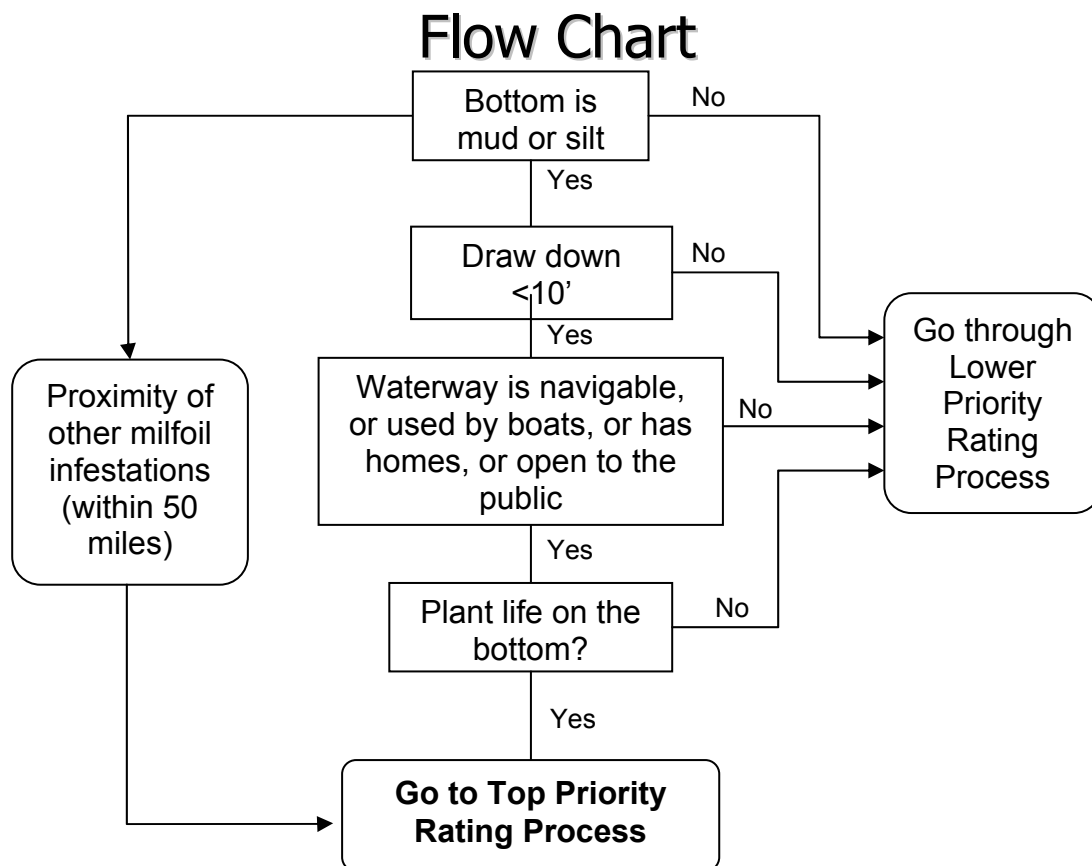
A prioritization flow chart (Figure 1) and weighted risk assessment (Figure 2) program was adopted by the Milfoil Task Force and used by the University of Idaho to sort through the survey responses. Of 606 entries, 52 were listed for additional review at the August 2003 meeting of the Task Force. Manual review of the 52 listed sites resulted in 25 Category I (first priority) and 6 Category II (second priority) water bodies.

With North Idaho being fairly well surveyed, the focus centered in Southeast Idaho first, then continued westerly through southern and southwestern Idaho.

Map 1.



**Figure 1.**



**Figure 2.**

## Top Priority Rating Process

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Is it open to the public?	20	0
Is it navigable?	10	0
Does it have a boat launch?	15	0
Are there homes on it?	10	0
Plant life on the bottom?	20	0
Is it primarily wildlife habitat?	5	0
Is it a substantial fishery?	10	0
Is it used for irrigation?	5	0
Is it used for drinking?	5	0

Possible 100 points

# PROPOSED PHYSICAL SURVEY ITINERARY

## 34 SITES in 16 COUNTIES SELECTED

FREMONT	ONEIDA	LINCOLN
Henry's Lake 1	Stone Reservoir 1	Star Lake 3
Teton River 2	Little Malad 2	Patterson Res 3
Lower Arcadia 3	POWER	ADA
Mikesell Reservoir 3	Snake River 1	Private lake 2
CARIBOU	Poutneuf River 2	PAYETTE
Dike Lake 1	CASSIA	Unnamed (x 3) 1
Bear River 2	Sublett Reservoir 1	CANYON
24-mile Reservoir 2	TWIN FALLS	Lake Lowell 1
BEAR LAKE	Owsley Boat Ramp	GEM
Bartlett Lake 1	1	Payette River 1
Unnamed 2	Shoshone Falls 2	ADAMS
Bear Lake 2	Milner Lake 3	Oxbow Reservoir 1
BANNOCK	Reservoir 3	
Hawkins Reservoir 1	GOODING	
FRANKLIN	Twin Falls Dam 1	
Treasureton Res 1	Clear Lakes 1	
	Thorn Creek Res 1	
	Snake River 1	

Physical Survey work launched September 10<sup>th</sup>, completed October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2003. Survey documented aquatic plants present, susceptibility, and GPS coordinates of milfoil infestations, if found. Nine sites on list not visited due to low water conditions.

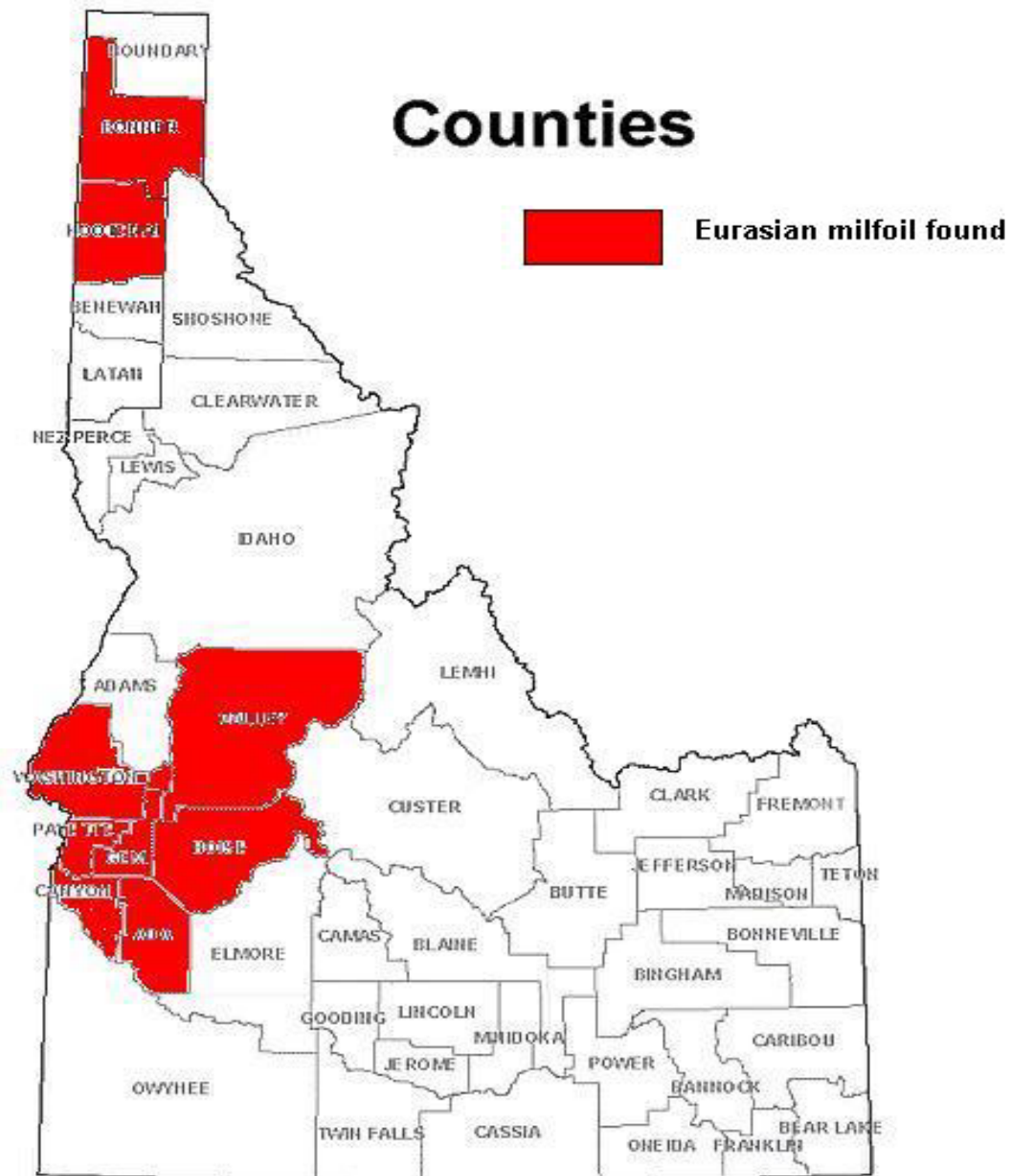
# SITES ACTUALLY VISITED

## 66 SITES in 22 COUNTIES

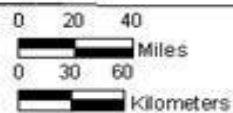
ADA	CANYON	Island Park Reservoir	NEZ PERCE
Private lake	Caldwell Rotary Pond	Henry's Lake	Lapwai
ADAMS	Caldwell RV Park pond	Henry's Lk Boat Launch	Lewiston Boat Ramp
Oxbow Reservoir	Lake Lowell	Henry's Lake State Park	River Ponds
BANNOCK	CARIBOU	Buttermilk	Hell's Gate Boat Launch
<i>Hawkins Reservoir**</i>	Soda Springs	<i>Lower Arcadia**</i>	PAYETTE
BEAR LAKE	Chesterfield Reservoir	<i>Mikesell Reservoir**</i>	Bass Fishing Ponds
Bartlett Lake	Dike Lake	GEM	Greenbelt Pond
Bear Lake	24-mile Reservoir	Black Canyon Reservoir	POWER
BLAINE	CASSIA	Montour	American Falls
Petit Lake	Lex Kunau Park	GOODING	Snake River above falls
BOISE	Sublett Reservoir	<i>Twin Falls Dam**</i>	Poutneuf River
Bull Trout Lake	Lake Walcott	<i>Clear Lakes**</i>	TWIN FALLS
Lowman Fishery Ponds	Snake River to Walcott	<i>Thorn Creek Reservoir**</i>	Owsley Boat Ramp
Banks	CUSTER	Snake River	Centennial Waterfront
Horseshoe Bend	Stanley Lake	LINCOLN	Shoshone Falls
BONNEVILLE	Red Fish Lake	<i>Star Lake**</i>	Dierkes Lake
Palisades Reservoir	FRANKLIN	<i>Patterson Reservoir**</i>	<i>Milner Lake **</i>
Snake River/Spring Crk	Treasureton Reservoir	ONEIDA	VALLEY
Ririe Reservoir	Twin Lakes	Devil Creek Reservoir	Warm Lake
Idaho Falls	FREMONT	Stone Reservoir	Horsethief Reservoir
Gem Lake	Snake River/Henry's Fork	Crowther Reservoir	Blackhawk
Rainbow Lake	Hwy 20 & Henry's Fork	Little Malad/Daniel Res	Cascade Reservoir
			Payette River

**\*\* On original list, but not visited due to extreme low water conditions**

**FINDING: Eurasian milfoil was not found outside of previously known areas.**



<http://inside.uidaho.edu>



February 2002

Source:  
Idaho Department of Water  
Resources, Counties,  
Boise, Idaho, 1990

## **RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ISC**

- ◆ Recommend the Invasive Species Council support action by the State of Idaho to resolve the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals ruling
  - ◆ Action suggested: Letter of support to the Idaho Association of Counties, with copy to the Governor's Office
- ◆ Recommend the Milfoil Task Force continue as an active subcommittee of the ISC as follows:

## **FUTURE ACTIONS OF THE TASK FORCE**

- ◆ Complete Physical Survey of Idaho:
  - ✧ Obtain needed information on incomplete forms
  - ✧ Work with Counties which did not respond
  - ✧ Continue physical review of susceptible waterways
- ◆ Develop recommendations for individual County program development and timelines (A How-To Guide)
- ◆ Develop resource list, including private contractors
- ◆ Report findings of physical survey to Counties, along with recommendations for monitoring susceptible waterways.
- ◆ Assist Counties and others as an Advisory Group to review milfoil treatment plans
- ◆ Research, review, and develop recommendations for other control strategies, such as barriers, curtains, soil incorporation, etc.
- ◆ Develop recommendations for prevention program at State level
- ◆ Participate in Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force efforts
- ◆ Educate Commissioners, Legal staff, and others about the impacts of Eurasian watermilfoil
- ◆ Make recommendations for additions to ISDA & U of I websites